

their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 70 individuals, 1 K–9, and 1 team in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medal of Valor.

Forty-six members of the Fairfax County Police Department and one K–9 are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

Silver Medal of Valor: Second Lieutenant Nicholas Dipippa, PFC Paul J. Blasko, Jr., PFC Peter T. Liu, PFC Frederick R. Yap, Officer Jesse B. Katzman

Bronze Medal of Valor: PFC Dwayne L. Daniels, PFC Michael S. Morris, PFC Andrew H. Curtze, PFC Christopher C. Taylor, PFC Shay V. Nelson, PFC Vincent J. Pulicino, PFC Justin M. Urbaniak, Officer Sharif W. Issa

Certificate of Valor: Captain Robert A. Blakley, Jr., Lieutenant C. Matthew Owens, Jr., Detective Douglas H. Comfort, Sergeant David J. Giaccio, PFC Christopher C. Taylor, PFC Daniel N. Custer (2), PFC Ryan L. Fisher, PFC Michael P. Levis, PFC David A. Curcio, PFC Amy A. Early, PFC Luis E. Martinez, PFC Edward K. George, PFC Kyle M. Proffitt, MPO Damien E. Cichocki, Officer Joseph W. Shifflett, Officer William M. Mulhern

Lifesaving Award: Second Lieutenant Dana L. Robinson, Sergeant Robert C. Hines, PFC Eric Acevedo, PFC David A. Neil, Jr., PFC Scott J. Abram, PFC Richard L. Cash, PFC Nathan R. Vanhusen, PFC Bradley E. Chiz, PFC Gary S. Tuggle, PFC Benjamin J. McIntosh, PFC Craig R. Quattrin, PFC Lane M. Leisey, PFC Angela P. Thomas, PFC Stephen T. Vaughn, Officer Kent G. Bailey, Officer Anne C. Bosacco, Officer Brenton K. Moreau

Meritorious Award: K9 Enzo

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2016 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF FATHER PAUL KWIATKOWSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as Catholics worldwide celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas today, the life of Father Paul Kwiatkowski will be celebrated in a Funeral Mass at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo, Ohio. With eternally grateful hearts but deepest sadness at his passing, thousands of citizens across our community mourn the passing of Fr. Paul, a loving, gentle, and kind apostle of Christ. Fr. Paul was beloved by all who knew him. And we know him through his works. As our perceptive Aunt Esther would observe: "Now, that was a priest!"

How many of us hold unforgettable memories of Fr. Paul's selfless service and abiding kindness, always in the heart of our community. His steady and faith filled journey among

us imbued the word "faith" with real meaning. A favorite memory for me is the beautiful, annual Memorial Day Mass with appropriate observances at Mt. Carmel Cemetery for veterans and their families, at which he would officiate. A gifted musician, many times he would play his violin under the budding trees as his cassock blew gently in the spring winds. There was a sense of peace and connectedness to the awesome power of creation he brought to every occasion. A hospitable lunch always followed at the former Polish American Veterans Association Post on Lagrange Street. I too recall the moving Polish Mass at the former St. Hedwig's before the Polish Festival opened, as the church doors swung wide and the congregants filled the sidewalks. To Toledo's Polonia, those of Polish-American heritage, he was a revered touchstone and valued counselor. I similarly treasure the memories of the Central American garment workers he hosted at St. James Catholic Church, a reminder of the work that remains to be done on worker exploitation across our hemisphere. Fr. Paul's service always managed to meet the suffering edge of humanity. And his spirit gave strength to others.

Fr. Paul was a learned man, but he possessed a rare gift for communicating with people of all persuasions. He was an educator and Latin teacher as well as a fine musician, and people naturally drew to him. His wonderful sense of humor and twinkling eyes had their own way of communicating "you are welcome." He dedicated his life to ministering to congregations in the heart of our city, always including some of the poorest precincts in Toledo. His rare leadership and tutelage of the Lagrange Stickney and Broadway neighborhoods sparked and immeasurably contributed to the neighborhoods' ongoing revitalization. His work at St. James and Immaculate Conception Catholic parishes made newcomers feel welcome. He consistently engaged with the people of the broader neighborhood, extending beyond the walls of the churches he pastored. Fr. Paul defined evangelization by embracing community.

I cannot even imagine nor count the number of individuals he counseled and comforted over a half century of his service. I do know our Toledo community remains grateful forever that he gave his life for us. He was a people's priest, a diocesan priest. He lived his vows.

May the angels lift him high, ushering him to paradise where there will always be music, joy and peace.

SUPPORTING THE GENERATION OF TOMORROW

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Wallin Education Partners for the work they are doing to ensure that Minnesotans from all walks of life receive a college education.

Since 1992, Wallin Education Partners has provided scholarships to Twin Cities high school students who excelled in academics but are from low-income families. This year alone, Wallin Education Partners has awarded

a scholarship to twenty students in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District so that they may receive the education they deserve.

Along with the financial assistance, Wallin Education Partners also helps students utilize all of the resources available to them during their college experience, often assisting them until they graduate.

Due to the support that Wallin Education Partners provides annually, it is anticipated that we will be seeing more students from low-income families graduate from college. All students deserve access to quality education, regardless of their means and upbringing, and this organization is a great tool for students across this great state.

I am incredibly thankful to Wallin Education Partners for giving worthy students the chance to gain an education and fulfill their dreams. By providing some of the best and brightest in our state with the key to an education, you are not just ensuring the success of our students, but the success of our nation as a whole. Your contributions have not gone unnoticed and they are enormously appreciated.

Congratulations to: Yana Aleksandrova, Issraa El-khatib, Carissa Gillispie, John Hilst, Kevin Huynh, Emily Johnson, Jenna Kallestad, Elias Kinfu, Baker LaMott, Gentry Musgrove, Taylor O'Neill, Jeremy Schipper, Eryn Schlotfeldt, Thomas Shoegren, Randall Skeate, Tenzin Sonam, Kayla Tanner, Emily Vang, Madeline Walker, and Joseph Zuleger.

We look forward to seeing what the future brings for this year's recipients.

HONORING SPIRIT XPLOSION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable professional minority business Spirit Xplosion Home of CE All Stars of Cleveland, Mississippi.

Mrs. Kimetria Parks, owner/coach is a native of Holly Springs, Mississippi. She moved to Cleveland, Mississippi in 1999 while attending Delta State University. She's married to Mr. Christopher Parks, Co-Owner/Coach and they have two beautiful daughters named Paris Kaitlyn Parks and Layken Parks. Mrs. Parks earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2003 and a Masters of Business Administration in 2013 from Delta State University. She is the Finance Officer of Mississippi United to End Homelessness and owner/coach of Spirit Xplosion Home of CE All Stars. Her fellowships with St. Peter MB Church in Sunflower, Mississippi. Mr. Parks graduated from Delta State University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in General Studies and Minor in Family Consumer Science and Criminal Justice and 2012 with a Masters in Physical Education with an Emphasis on Human Performance.

She has a great love and compassion for young people. Her ministry is to inspire young people to excel in all things with God's leading and to encourage women. Everything she does is done with the spirit of excellency. Her motto is: "If I can help somebody then her living is not in vain." She loves God wholeheartedly and thrives to live according to his will and his way; not just on Sunday, but every